

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1436

ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001

REVISED GUIDELINES FOR WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to revise the Watershed Development guidelines issued in April 1995;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have consulted the State Governments or received any representations in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA).

(a) to (d) : Guidelines for Watershed Development had come into force w.e.f 1.4.1995 and have been under implementation for a period of nearly 6 years. During this period, the Ministry of Rural Development had interacted with the State Governments, Project Implementing Agencies and NGOs regarding implementation of watershed development projects under the provisions of these Guidelines. Suggestions were also received for modification of the Guidelines in order to improve the implementation of the watershed development projects. The revised Guidelines (under issue) provide greater flexibility, focussed role for Panchayati Raj Institutions, twin track approach, exit protocol, greater community participation in project implementation and post project maintenance etc.